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FROM THE **DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

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No. 9

I mentioned in my August 15 letter that SEA's 1982 budget recommendations had been presented to the Department and from all indications were well-received. Since that time I have participated in the Secretary's Program Budget Review Board meetings. While specific decisions regarding the budget are confidential during the period between our submission to the Department and the President's submission to the Congress next January, I can say that I continue to be optimistic about our prospects for 1982. The next stage of the budget development process will be at the President's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) level.

Personnel Notes

John L. Creech, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington since 1973, retired August 8. Dr. Creech, one of the world's leading horticulturists, began his career with USDA in 1947 and has held several positions in the Department's plant science programs. A world leader in ornamental plant exploration, Dr. Creech specialized in wild and cultivated ornamental trees and shrubs of the Far East. His ten plant exploration trips have taken him to Japan, the Soviet Union, Nepal, Taiwan, and Yugoslavia. He has been the recipient of many awards, among which are the Thomas Roland Medal for outstanding contribution to horticulture, the Arthur Hoyt Scott Garden and Horticulture Award, the Garden Club of America Gold Medal, the Frank N. Meyer Medal for plant exploration, the Gold Seal Award from the National Council of State Garden Clubs, and the Department's Superior Service Award.

Essex Finney, Assistant Director of the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, started a one-year detail on August 11 to the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. Dr. Finney will work on a variety of policy issues in the food and agricultural sciences: organization, management, evaluation of, and budgets for, Federal food and agricultural research programs; the role of the Federal Government in the performance and support of the food and agricultural sciences; future research priorities in the food processing industry; food irradiation; nutrition; and aquaculture.

John Naegele has been appointed Acting Program Manager for International Programs in SEA and will be reporting to the Assistant Director for Special Programs. In this capacity, Dr. Naegele will be the focal point for all SEA's international activities.

Soil Conservation Society Awards

George M. Browning, former Director at Large, North Central Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, now retired, received the prestigious Hugh Hammond Bennett Award at the 35th annual awards banquet of the Soil Conservation Society of America. During the 12 years Dr. Browning served as Director at Large, he made many contributions that helped strengthen the Federal-State partnership.

Carl W. Carlson, former Assistant Administrator, National Program Staff, SEA/AR, and now Acting Associate Director, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, for his sound technical leadership and coordination of multi-disciplinary research involving broad areas of natural resource sciences, and for his many research contributions on soil and water problems; Tamlin C. Olson, Assistant Area Director for the Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin area within the North Central Region, SEA/AR, for his significant research contributions in water infiltration, use of the universal soil loss equation, conservation tillage practices and water conservation; and Wayne O. Willis, Research Leader, SEA/AR, Ft. Collins, Colo., for his research and leadership in providing sound technical advice to scientists and natural resource managers on a broad spectrum of dryland conservation problems.

Whitten Committee Visit

Robert Foster, Senior Staff Assistant on the House Appropriations Committee (chaired by Congressman Jamie L. Whitten) recently spent a full day with scientists at the Eastern Regional Research Center in Philadelphia. Mr. Whitten's staff likes to see programs and facilities firsthand so that they have a better feel for the subject matter when legislation is drafted.

Extension to Cooperate in Mycotoxin Survey

The Food and Drug Administration has negotiated an Interagency Agreement with SEA-Extension to survey animal feeds and grains produced, harvested, stored, and used on 15 farms in 5 States for the presence of specific mycotoxins. Because of evidence of possible mycotoxin problems in animals, FDA will analyze samples of grains and feed collected by Extension people over two growing seasons. The study will enable SEA-Extension to help the agricultural community deal with mycotoxin problems, and it will help to assure the quality and safety of foods.

FDA Briefing

Some SEA-AR senior staff met with key scientists of FDA's Bureau of Foods in Washington recently to inform them about the diversity and depth of our programs that relate to their needs and objectives. Reginald Handwerk was assisted by several representatives from SEA/AR Regional Research Centers. Such meetings foster cooperation and are helpful to us in carrying out our mission of providing research support for programs of regulatory and action agencies.

New Research Laboratory Dedicated

The Appalachian Soil and Water Conservation Laboratory at Beckley, W. Va., was dedicated August 23 by Senator Robert C. Byrd (D - W.Va.) I accepted the fine new facility on behalf of SEA. The research there will emphasize hill-land agriculture and protection of the environment, including reclamation of strip-mined land. All of our research previously conducted at Morgantown, W. Va., will be transferred to Beckley. Orus Bennett will transfer from Morgantown to head the new laboratory. Research on conservation measures to control soil erosion and improve water quality will be conducted as will studies of the risks and benefits of recycling wastes in the land. The laboratory will eventually be staffed by 15 or 16 scientists representing many disciplines.

Equal Employment Opportunity

SEA's second Annual EEO Conference has been scheduled for November 18-20 in Monterey, California, to provide a workshop forum in which Equal Opportunity Coordinators, special emphasis program managers, personnel specialists, and management representatives can develop guides to implement more effective Affirmative Action Plans.

Seaman A. Knapp Memorial Lecture

Last Year, SEA's Information Staff began laying the foundation for a memorial lectureship to honor the memory and accomplishments of Seaman A. Knapp, the father of Extension education. I am pleased now to announce the first Seaman A. Knapp Memorial Lecture will be presented on November 17, before the annual meeting of the American Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges in Atlanta.

The Knapp Lectureship will take its place beside the Atwater and the Morrison Lectureships, each in their 13th year. The Atwater Lectureship is awarded for outstanding accomplishment in the science of human nutrition, and it honors the memory of W. O. Atwater, a 19th Century USDA scientist who is considered the father of human nutrition research in America. The Morrison Lecture series recognizes accomplishment in the environmental sciences, and honors the memory of B. Y. Morrison, first director of our National Arboretum.

Global 2000 Report to the President

Two volumes of "The Global 2000 Report to the President: Entering the Twenty-First Century," produced under a directive by the President, are now available in printed form. "Volume I, The Summary Report," contains disturbing projections and conclusions for those of us in the agricultural sciences on the "probable changes in the world's population, natural resources, and environment through the end of this century." Copies of this report (47 pages) can be obtained by sending \$3.50 to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Volume 2, "The Technical Report," (817 pages) costs \$13.00. Volume 3, "The Government's Global Model," is not yet off press.

Bankhead-Jones Review

A review of the Bankhead-Jones and Morrill-Nelson programs which support agricultural instruction at land-grant institutions has been completed and published in response to a Congressional mandate. Jane Roth and John Michael, Joint Planning and Evaluation/SEA, in cooperation with the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges conducted the review. They found that the funds are being used by land-grant institutions in a manner consistent with the legislative intent.

Update on SEA Grant Programs

Special Research Grants awarded as of September 3 number 111 and total \$10,083,500. They include 6 grants for research on soybeans, 23 for energy, 70 for animal health, 5 for alcohol fuels, and 7 for guayule.

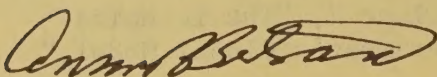
All of the soybean, energy, animal health, and alcohol fuels research grants have now been awarded. The two remaining guayule research grants are being processed and should be awarded by September 15, 1980.

The Competitive Research Grants awarded as of September 3, 1980, now number 146 and total \$10,371,523. They include 27 grants for research on biological nitrogen fixation, 19 for photosynthesis, 27 for genetic mechanisms, 59 for biological stress on plants, and 14 for human nutrition.

In addition, we have awarded 25 grants totalling \$1,238,800 for the Solar Energy Systems for Agriculture Program. The remaining 12 grants are being processed and should be awarded by September 15, 1980. Funding for this program is being provided by the Department of Energy.

Chinese Aquaculture Exchange

Bille Hougart recently returned from a trip to the People's Republic of China. Mr. Hougart, currently heading up SEA-Special Programs, was one of the aquaculture delegates representing USDA, Department of Commerce, and Department of the Interior under the cultural and scientific exchange agreement between our two countries. During the trip, which took almost all of July, the delegates visited seven cities and provincial laboratories and institutes concerned with aquatic research. The delegation discovered that only about 25 percent (1,500,000 metric tons) of their total aquatic foods and products are produced by aquaculture, instead of 50 percent, as the Western World had previously thought. During the trip, agreement was reached with the People's Republic of China on the itinerary and topics for the Chinese aquaculture delegation when they visit our country this October.



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